

DATE: March, 2007
TO: Authorized Representative/Food Service Director
FROM: Dean Flaws, Food Distribution Consultant
SUBJECT: 7F (April) Release

PLEASE ROUTE TO FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR

1. **7F (April) Commodity Order Form** has been enclosed in this mailing. You may Fax, or use the Internet when ordering for 7F. **Please do not mail, the turnaround time is too short. Return orders ASAP.** April deliveries will start during the 2nd week of April. Thank You!
2. **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** order forms have also been enclosed in this mailing. Please fill out the order form and return to this office ASAP. This is only for the schools who have already expressed an interest to be in the Summer of 2007 Food Program. These order forms must be faxed back. These commodity food items will be shipped to schools during their regular April deliveries by Keck, Inc.
3. **Summer Camps 2007** There will be no camp deliveries for Iowa sites in the summer of 2007. A very limited supply of commodities is in surplus at the warehouses. If a surplus in Bonus commodities develops, the program may be available in the summer of 2008.
4. **Deletions for 7E (Feb/March) Deliveries:**
 - Dressing, Salsa cups
 - Dressing, BBQ sauce (cups & gallons)
 - Dressing, Marinara sauce cups
 - Dressing, Salsa
 - Dressing, Spaghetti sauce

When deletions and/or reductions are made on a delivery several factors may be involved. The manufacturer may be having production problems and will be delayed in getting to Iowa warehouse. A processing manufacturer may be able to only produce a limited supply during this delivery cycle. Another factor could be that we (State of Iowa) ordered product for a particular ship period, but USDA didn't make the purchase for the product (usually because of too high of prices). We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause your school district.

5. **Keck deliveries** will usually be able to make it to your schools regardless of adverse weather. Anticipate them to come to your school even if you start late or have dismissed for the day.
6. **When ordering your commodities over the Internet** be sure to click "**UPDATE**" after you have entered your numbers. You can click "**UPDATE**" as many times as you want. Once your numbers have been locked in, the last thing you click is the "**CERTIFY**" button.

7. CLARIFICATION OF ENTITLEMENT VS. BONUS

Under the USDA's Commodity Distribution Programs, commodities donated to states fall into one of two categories: ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES AND BONUS COMMODITIES.

ENTITLEMENT COMMODITIES

Commodities that, by law, USDA must provide to the States. These commodities are supplied in limited amounts, and FNS (Food and Nutrition Services) is mandated to ensure that a certain dollar value of commodities be distributed to each State. Under the NSLP (National School Lunch Program), the amount of entitlement commodities sent to each State is determined by the number of meals served to children during the school year. In the 2005-2006 school year, states were entitled to receive .1750 cents in entitlement commodities for each meal served.

BONUS COMMODITIES

Bonus commodities are those commodities which USDA makes available under its discretionary authority to dispose of surplus commodities to prevent waste and spoilage. FNS is not mandated to allocate a prescribed amount of bonus commodities to each state, and states are not limited in the amount of bonus commodities they can receive. Bonus commodities do not count against entitlement commodities due a state or against school balances. However, the types and quantities of bonus commodities available change from year to year.

8. **Damaged/Shortages on a Release:** On any release, if there are damaged products or shortages it is necessary that the driver initial such items. When there is a driver's initial on the release, proper credit will be given on the invoice amount. All items should be checked carefully at the time of delivery. An over/short paper report should also be sent to the STATE OFFICE.
9. **The first order form for the 2007-2008 school year** should be mailed and on the web about May 15. Your end of the year report on commodities received in 2006-2007 will also be included in the May mailing.
10. **If you have any commodity questions please give us a call at:**
(515) 281-4751, Mary Jo Clark
(515-)281-4032, Dean Flaws

Sincerely,

Dean Flaws, Commodities Consultant (515-281-4032)
Mary Jo Clark, Commodities Assistant (515-281-4751)
Bureau of Food and Nutrition

Enclosures